

DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL – DELTA PLAN WORKSHOP – 4/14/11

Panel - Protecting, Restoring and Enhancing the Delta Ecosystem

Introductory Remarks from:

Campbell Ingram, Executive Officer

- 1. The Delta conservancy is up and running and fully staffed. Per statute SBX7 1 our board is made up of 5 County supervisors, 2 Governor's appointees, 1 Senate and 1 Assembly appointee, the Secretary of Resources and the Director of the Department of Finance. There are two nonvoting members, one from the Senate and one from the Assembly (Assembly position currently vacant). We also have a 10 member liaison advisor group made up of agencies and organizations active in the Delta. Our board is working very well together as evidenced by their unanimous approval of our Interim Strategic Plan adopted at our February, 2011 board meeting.
- 2. The Conservancy has three near term top priorities:
 - a. Completion of a strategic plan by the end of 2011. The Conservancy is committed, in developing our strategic plan, to facilitating collaboration between local Delta interest and the State to achieve our "co-equal responsibilities" of ecosystem restoration and economic sustainability.
 - Securing a stable funding source. We are currently exploring available public and private grant opportunities and tracking legislative efforts that could affect funding for the Conservancy.
 - c. Demonstrating our ability to effectively and efficiently conduct projects, both restoration and economic development related, in the near term. We are currently exploring opportunities to bring to our board for consideration.
- 3. The Conservancy thanks the Delta Stewardship Council for the opportunity to participate on the panel. To date we have provided comment on the second and third drafts of the Delta Plan and have participated in the Delta Plan State Agency Coordination Team. We intend to be A/THE primary State agency to implement ecosystem restoration in the Delta in collaboration and cooperation with local governments and interested parties.